SUBJECT No. 5.

Infant Marriages Prevention Regulation.

Messrs. B. Hanumappa, G. Rajappa and Siddavirappa, Bangalore city municipal council.

Summary of discussion.—The Infant Marriages Prevention Regulation may be amended by raising the marriageable age of girls from 8 to 10 years and that of boys from 14 to 16.

Mr. Siddavirappa added that the age limit should be raised from 8 to 10 in the case of girls as thereby education among girls would spread further.

Mr. Khadreppa said that it was inconvenient to enact such a law, as it might lead to increase of marriage expenses.

Reply of Government.—This is a matter in which Government cannot interfere unless the majority agree.

Note.—Votes were taken with the result that 70 were for raising the age limit to 10 years and 68 were against it, the total number of members present being 157.

SUBJECT No. 6.

Hackney Carriage Regulation.

Messrs. Gurikar Venkataramanagowda, Tigalarhalli Timmegowda and Yajaman Narain Setti, Kankanhalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—If the Hackney Carriage Regulation which is now in force only in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore is ordered to be brought into force throughout the State wherever the jutka service is in use, much of the existing inconvenience of the people will be removed.

Hackney carriage keepers now use very ricketty carriages which are unsafe to the public and the animals are overworked.

Reply of Government.—Noted for consideration.

SUBJECT No. 7.

Introduction of certain Acts into Mysore.

Messrs. S. Sitharamaiya, Shimoga taluk, M. Venkatakrishnaiya, M. C. Rangaiengar, Amble Anniah Pandit and Banumaiya, Mysore city municipal council, A. Krishna Rao, Bar Association, Mysore and Singri Nanjappa, Tiptur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The development of commerce and the other progressive activities of the State demand the introduction of the following Acts :—(1) Negotiable Instruments Act, (2) Easements Act, (3) Transfer of Property Act, with certain modifications suited to the conditions of the State.

The Government may also be pleased to introduce an Act—the Interest Act—whereby the evils of exorbitant interest can be remedied. In England and other countries "the Law of Usury" prevails. The Government of India are also considering the introduction of such an enactment.

Mr. M. C. Rangiengar represented that it was necessary to introduce a Regulation on the lines of the British Money Lenders' Act, but that the question must be fully considered before any definite step was taken.

Mr. M. S. Ramachar argued *per contra* that the laws in force were quite sufficient for the purpose, that courts had discretion to allow lower rate of interest, that therefore the present law should not be altered and that restrictions on the rate of interest would cripple trade.

Reply of Government.—Noted for consideration.